

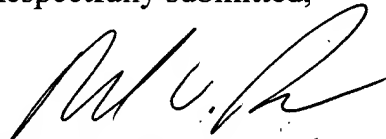
REMARKS

1. Introduction. Claims 2-5, 7-14 and 18-21 are pending in the case. Claims 16 and 17 have been cancelled.

2. 35 U.S.C. §102(3) Rejection of Claims 16-17. The Examiner rejected claims 16-17 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Wood (U.S. Patent No. 6,518,224 B2). In response to this rejection, the Applicant has cancelled claims 16 and 17.

3. Conclusion. Based on the above amendments and remarks I believe that all of the claims remaining in the case are allowable and an early Notice of Allowability is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference will expedite the disposition of this matter, he is respectfully invited to contact this attorney at the number shown below.

Respectfully submitted,



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